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New Literature

The most important books listed in these columns will receive notice in the book-review pages.

OLD TESTAMENT

BOOKS

STAERK, W. Das assyrische Weltreich im Urteil der Propheten. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1908. Pp. vi + 240. M. 8.

This is a booklet worthy of the careful consideration of every student of prophecy. The author here places himself upon the side of the opponents of the Wellhausen-Stade school. His sympathies are rather with the "religionsgeschichtlicher" school, represented by such men as Baentsch, Gunkel, Gressmann, Winckler. It is just as far away from traditional methods in spirit and purpose as was the school it seeks to displace, but its results are in some respects more in harmony with conservative opinions.

WOODBIDGE, J. L. The Story of the Covenant and the Mystery of the Jew. New York: Broadway Publishing Co., 1907. Pp. v + 105.

"A ruling elder in the First Presbyterian Church, Marshall, Missouri," here seeks to substantiate the practice of infant baptism by tracing its historical connection with the covenant of Abraham. The exegesis is rabbinical and the whole point of view inaccessible to the average man.

NORDELL, P. A. Bible Studies for Adult Classes. No. 1: Studies in Old Testament History. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 1907. Pp. 96. \$0.20.

Thirty lessons covering the entire Old Testament period from the Creation to the close of the Old Testament revelation. The task undertaken is too great for the amount of space and time given to it. But the point of view and method are well adapted to the needs and capacities of adult classes desirous of something better than the International lessons.

VINING, E. P. Israel, or Jacob's New Name. A study, showing that the meaning of the name and the use of cognate words furnish several convincing proofs of the historicity of the biblical record concerning him and of the early date of the Pentateuch. Re-

printed from *Watchword and Truth*. Boston: American Printing Co., 1908. Pp. xii + 192.

SMITH, J. M. P. Books for Old Testament Study. An Annotated List for Popular and Professional Use. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1908. Pp. 70. \$0.50.

A revised and slightly enlarged edition of the lists published in the *Biblical World* for August, October, November, 1907. They furnish an index to the best recent literature on the Old Testament.

ARTICLES

SPOER, H. H. Some New Considerations Toward the Dating of the Book of Malachi. *The Jewish Quarterly Review*, January, 1908, pp. 167-86.

An interpretation of the evidence for the date of Malachi which results in placing the book's origin in the days of the Maccabean prince, Jonathan.

BAUMANN, E. König Saul. *Theologische Studien und Kritiken*, January, 1908, pp. 161-76.

A careful and discriminating study of the character and career of Israel's first king.

FRAZER, M. Un scrupule alimentaire des anciens Hébreux. *Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres. Comptes Rendus*, October, 1907, pp. 578-86.

The injunction, "thou shalt not seethe a kid in its mother's milk" (Exod. 23:19; 34:26; Deut. 14:21), has defied all efforts at explanation thus far. M. Frazer offers a new one, viz., that it grows out of the widespread and deep aversion to the cooking of milk among pastoral tribes. The natives of Sierra Leone, e. g., never cook milk, for they believe that to do so would cause the cow that gave the milk to go dry. Similar views are found throughout Africa. M. Frazer has presented this explanation in English in *Anthropological Essays Presented to Edward Burnett Tylor* (Oxford, 1907), pp. 151-67. It was earlier offered by M. Mauss, in *L'année sociologique*, Vol. IX (1904-05), p. 190.

NEW TESTAMENT

BOOKS

RAMSAY, W. M. *The Cities of St. Paul: Their Influence on His Life and Thought.* New York: Armstrong, 1908. Pp. xvi + 452. \$3.

The Dale Lectures, delivered at Mansfield College, Oxford, and in large part published in articles in English journals, are here collectively presented, accompanied with numerous illustrations. Tarsus, Pisidian Antioch, and Iconium are most fully treated, especially the first, upon the history and organization of which Professor Ramsay brings to bear all his literary, archaeological, and historical skill. This will be a useful book to students of the life of Paul.

JACOBUS, MELANCTHON W. *Roman Catholic and Protestant Bibles Compared.* (The Gould Prize Essays.) 2d ed., revised and supplemented. New York: Scribners, 1908. Pp. xiii + 361. \$1.25 net.

The three essays to which were awarded the prizes offered by Miss Helen Gould four years ago are republished under Dr. Jacobus' editorship, with extended notes and bibliographies, which

add much to the value of the papers. The essays are by W. T. Whitley, G. H. Beard, and Charles B. Dalton. The conditions of the competition so limited the essays that they are brief popular sketches of this large and intricate subject.

ARTICLES

MACRORY, J. *Recent Criticism and the Authorship of the Fourth Gospel.* *Irish Catholic Quarterly*, January, 1908, pp. 50-72.

John is held to be in some real and true sense the author of the gospel, which some disciple of his may possibly have thrown into form, but which more probably, in form as well as substance, the apostle himself produced.

BÜCHLER, A. *The New "Fragment of an Uncanonical Gospel."* *Jewish Quarterly Review*, January, 1908, pp. 330-46.

An able and elaborate argument for the historical accuracy of the new Oxyrhynchus gospel fragment in its representation of Jewish purification and temple usage. Copious and telling parallels from the Mishna and Talmud are cited in support of this important position.

RELATED SUBJECTS

BOOKS

The National Teacher-Training Institute Textbooks. Book I: *The Sunday-School Teacher's Bible* (pp. 150). Book II: *The Sunday School-Teacher's Pupils* (pp. 159). Philadelphia: The American Baptist Publication Society, 1907, 1908. Each 40 cts.

Book I falls into two parts, viz., "A General Introduction to the Bible," and "The Great Vital Doctrines of the Bible." This second part is out of place in a work like this, for it presents not biblical, but systematic, theology. Furthermore, in both volumes the work is assigned to various writers with the result that great unevenness of quality and variant points of view are found. The second volume is much the better of the two, discussing as it does "the pupils in general," and "the mind of the pupil." It will give many teachers a totally new conception of the possibilities and methods within their reach.

GILBERT, GEORGE H. *Interpretation of the Bible. A Short History.* New

York: Macmillan, 1908. Pp. vii + 309. \$1.25.

Beginning with the Jewish interpretation of the Old Testament, Dr. Gilbert traces the history of the interpretation of the Scriptures through the Catholic and the Alexandrian Fathers, the Mediaevals, the Reformers, the movements of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, down to the birth of scientific interpretation in the nineteenth. The careful reading of this book would be a liberal education for the average man. He would certainly arise from it with a new conception of the character of Scripture and a less dogmatic confidence in the value of his own opinions in the realm of biblical interpretation. It should be in every minister's library.

SCHWARTZ, EDUARD. *Eusebius' Kirchengeschichte.* (Kleine Ausgabe.) Leipzig: Hinrichs, 1908. Pp. iv + 442. M. 4.80.

The Prussian Academy's new critical Greek text of the Church History of Eusebius is republished in one compact volume, with a limited apparatus of readings, but without Ruhnus Latin version.